Resolutions. However, raising of the Kashmir issue in the UN does not figure in the manifesto of the Labour Party.

(b) Our High Commission in London is in regular contact with the Labour Party leadership and have explained the correct facts as well as the Government's well-known position that the Kashmir issue should be resolved in accordance with the Simla Agreement of 1972.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Extremist and secessionist groups and pro-Pakistani elements have been carrying out anti-India propaganda to get public sympathy and support for their causes.

(e) to (g). The Indian missions in those countries are in regular contact with a wide cross-section of leaders. Indian community leaders, the media and other opinion-makers to brief them on developments in India and our position on various issues. This is a regular and on going exercise in all the countries where anti-India propaganda is being conducted. In addition, the External Affairs Minister and the Minister of State for External Affairs during their recent visits to UK, Franc, Canada, USA, Germany, Italy met a number of local political leaders as well as media and ethnic organisations to explain our point of view.

Anti-India propaganda has made the job of Indian diplomats to project the image of India abroad more challenging.

Loan Facility to ONGC by Asian Development Bank

*315. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has refused to extend any loan facility to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission unless its exploration organisation is streamlined;

(b) if so, the specific drawbacks which have been pointed out by the Asian Development Bank; and

(c) the reasion of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PERTROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c): Do not arise.

Exploration of Graphite Deposits in Bihar

*316. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted in Khagariya and Ranchi districts of Bihar for exploration of graphite deposits;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for exploration of graphite there; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred hereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The information so far available with Geological survey of India (GSI) have not revealed any potential graphite mineralisation in Khagariya and Ranchi districts of Bihar. Presently there is no

proposal for exploration of graphite in these districts.

(d) Does not arise.

Modern Sation of Sone Canal

*317. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in modernisation of Sone Canal Project in Bihar; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). Sone Canal Modernisation Project Phase I was examined and found techno-economically acceptable, but could not be given investment clearance by the Planning Commission due to inability of the State Government to provide adequate budgetary support for this project. The State Government is required to re-formuiate the scheme in the light of the diagnostic studies suggested by the Planning Commission and update the cost estimates. In the meanwhile, the Dumraon branch canal of the Sone Canal System has been included in the National Water Management project and the improvement works covered therein have been provided with assistance from the World Bank.

Diplomatic Relations with Israel

*318. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish diplomatic relations with Israel in view of the recent political developments taking place in Europe, Middle East and other regions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to play a constructive role in bringing peace to West Asia; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Normalisation of relations with Israel is contingent upon genuine progress in the on going peace process in West Asia.

(d) and (e). India is committed to supporting all efforts to bring about a just and comprehensive settlement in West Asia. We will continue to work for this.

Sanctions Against South Africa

*319. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's decision to life people-to-people sanctions including cultural and sports boycott of South Africa was communicated to the African National Congress only and not to the Government of South Africa; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. The decision was communicated to the African National Congress and not to the Government of South Africa.